

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /047 W  
-----030902 011707Z /47  
R 011323Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3836  
USIA WASHDC

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E.O.11652: N/A  
TAGS: MASS  
SUBJ: MEDIA TREATMENT AWACS ISSUE

MEDIA COMMENT ON IRAN "WITHDRAWAL" AWACS PURCHASE HAS  
SO FAR DRAWN LITTLE EDITORIAL COMMENT. TODAY BEING  
MUSLIM HOLIDAY, NO NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED. JULY 31  
FRENCH LANGUAGE JOURNAL DE TEHRAN, WHICH IS PUBLISHED  
BY ETTALA'AT GROUP, CARRIED EXTENSIVE EDITORIAL THIS  
SUBJECT. PAPER HAS SMALL CIRCULATION (3-5,000) OVERSEEN  
BY FORMER MININFO OFFICIAL, SIMON FARZAMI, WHO CLAIMS HIS  
PAPER IS MOST "INDEPENDENT" IN IRAN. HE, NEVERTHELESS,  
CARRIES NOTHING WHICH IS CONTRARY TO GOI POLICY. MAIN  
POINTS OF EDITORIAL FOLLOW:(UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION-  
NON ESSENTIAL WORDS DELETED)

1. HOUSE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE VOTED 19 AGAINST  
17 THURSDAY TO STOP THE SALE OF SEVEN AWACS TO IRAN.  
PRESIDENT CARTER, EXPRESSING HIS VIEW IN FAVOR OF SELLING  
SAID AIRCRAFT WITHDREW PROPOSAL. ACCORDING INFORMATION WE  
RECEIVED, IRANIAN GOVERNMENT ALSO HAS WITHDRAWN IT INTENT  
TO PURCHASE AND HAS INFORMED THE U.S. GOVERNMENT OF ITS  
INTENTION.

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2. COMMENTING ON NEGATIVE ATTITUDE OF A NUMBER OF SENATORS  
AND CONGRESSMEN, PRESS REPORTERS GIVE SEVERAL REASONS FOR  
THE ATTITUDE ADOPTED BY THE CONGRESS. FIRST, THEY FEAR  
THE SOVIET UNION MIGHT PUT THEIR HANDS ON THE SECRETS OF A  
U.S. DEVELOPED SYSTEM WHICH IS ULTRA-PERFECT. HERE WE DON'T  
WANT TO DISCUSS THE REAL REASONS FOR THE CONGRESS OPPOSITION  
TO JIMMY CARTER PROPOSAL. BUT THE EXCUSE PRESENTED RUNS

COUNTER TO THE REAL FACT. SINCE THE TIME THAT IRAN HAS  
BEGUN TO MODERNISE ITS MILITARY FORCES AND HAS RECEIVED  
FOREIGN MILITARY TECHNOLOGY, PARTICULARLY FROM THE UNITED  
STATES, NO DEFECTION HAS EVER HAPPENED IN FAVOR OF ANY  
FOREIGN POWER. OUR ANTI-ESPIONAGE SYSTEM HAS ABUNDANTLY  
PROVED TO BE VERY EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT DURING RECENT  
YEARS... SECOND ARGUMENT PRESENTED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE  
MEMBERS IS "THE NECESSITY OF SENDING TO IRAN AN LARGE  
NUMBER OF THE AMERICAN TECHNICIANS TO ENSURE THE OPERATION  
OF THE AWACS"... THIS EXCUSE ALSO IS NOT JUSTIFIED. THE  
PAST EXPERIENCE DEMONSTRATES THAT THE IRANIAN PILOTS AND  
TECHNICIANS RAPIDLY ABSORB MODERN TECHNOLOGY... THE AWACS,  
IF THEY WERE TO BE DELIVERED TO US, WOULDN'T BE DELIVERED  
BEFORE 1980 AND THUS WE WOULD HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO EFFECT A  
PROGRAM TO TRAIN THE QUALIFIED PERSONNEL.

3. AS IT REGARDS OTHER EXCUSES PRESENTED, EVEN A SUPERFICIAL  
EXAMINATION OF THE DEVELOPMENT IN THIS COUNTRY FOLLOWING  
WORLD WAR TWO WILL PROVE THAT THEY ARE NOT JUSTIFIED. WE  
HAVE NEVER ENGAGED IN AGGRESSION AND WE HAVE NEVER THREATENED  
OUR NEIGHBORS. IRAN HAS ALWAYS TRIED TO PROMOTE AN ALLIANCE  
IN THE PERSIAN GULF AREA AND HAS ALWAYS SUPPORTED ALL  
PROPOSALS IN FAVOR OF PEACE. THIS FACT IS THE BEST RESPONSE  
FOR THOSE IN THE UNITED STATES WHO FEAR THE DISEQUILIBRIUM  
OF FORCES IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

SULLIVAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AWACS, AIR DEFENSE, PRESS COMMENTS, WARNING SYSTEMS, US CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 01-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977TEHRAN06826  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770275-0235  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1427119  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MEDIA TREATMENT AWACS ISSUE MEDIA COMMENT ON IRAN \"WITHDRAWAL\" AWACS PURCHASE HAS SO FAR DRAWN LITTLE EDITORIAL COMMENT. TODAY BEING  
**TAGS:** MASS, US, IR  
**To:** STATE USIA  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
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